

14 March 1961

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Chairman, United States Intelligence Board

**SUBJECT:** Military Requirements and Priorities for  
Production of National Intelligence Survey (NIS)

**REFERENCES:** (a) Memorandum from Director for Intelligence,  
The Joint Staff, to Chairman, USIB,  
same subject, dated 6 February 1961  
(USIB-C-51.5/1)  
(b) Draft Minute No. 9, same subject,  
21 February Intelligence Board Meeting  
(USIB-M-141)

11/24/50  
1. The Intelligence Board considered reference (a) at its 21 February meeting and agreed that the NIS Committee should consider views of various elements of the community regarding possible improvement in the NIS system and make a progress report to the Board within 30 days, including the Committee's actions or recommendations with respect to these views (reference b).

2. The NIS Committee submits this progress report in response to reference (b). As a result of preliminary examination of the problem, the Committee considers that certain emergency measures, hereinafter discussed, should permit the presently available capabilities in the several NIS producing agencies to provide accelerated initial coverage and aid in increasing priority maintenance of the NIS as required by the JCS Survey.

3. Under these emergency measures, work on about 20 low priority areas will be suspended in the main, although provision is made to accommodate specific detailed requirements of pressing need. Also stop-gap production of the Chapter I type will be used to accelerate initial production on some 30 newly emerging states and other undeveloped areas. Additional detailed production and maintenance on these areas will be done only on a highly selective and priority basis.

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4. The Committee is also undertaking the following measures which should result in substantial economies and refinements in the NIS System:

- a. maximum use of consolidated chapters;
- b. minimum use of NIS standard supplements;
- c. selective elimination of low priority and marginal requirements wherever feasible;
- d. using ad hoc and other departmental reports and studies, where applicable, to satisfy approximate NIS requirements;
- e. insofar as possible, redirecting available resources to meet the revised NIS production requirements;
- f. improving review procedures, reducing lead times, and ensuring quality production throughout the NIS System.

5. The NIS Committee recognizes that emergency measures cited above do not assure a solution to the long term problem of providing adequate maintenance. Procedures must be developed which will increase the rate of maintenance and which may involve changes in format, scope, outline, production procedures, and scheduling. It is believed that the interim measures outlined above can contribute in the immediate future to overcoming some of the more pressing problems. The other procedural changes will require more time to accomplish. The NIS Committee will report periodically to the Intelligence Board on progress made and to identify any problem areas which are considered to require Intelligence Board action.

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Chairman, NIS Committee